

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 to 37 (Canceled).

38 (Currently Amended). A method for repairing a diseased or damaged section of an aorta comprising

(i) providing a system ~~as defined in claim 2~~ comprising at least one tissue-piercing fastener having a sharpened distal tip for piercing and penetrating tissue,

a fastener attachment assembly sized and configured to be deployed from a remote access site to a targeted endovascular region, the fastener attachment assembly including an intraluminal directing device defining an access path and including a deflectable distal region, and

an intraluminal fastener applier separate from the intraluminal directing device and being sized and configured for introduction along the access path and including an actuated member that is selectively operable to generate an implantation force in an implantation force direction to implant the tissue-piercing fastener by causing the sharpened distal tip to pierce and penetrate the tissue in the targeted endovascular region, and

means associated with the fastener attachment assembly for applying a resolving force in a direction different than the implantation force direction within the targeted endovascular region to resolve at least a portion of the implantation force,

(ii) introducing the intraluminal directing device from a remote access site to a location within a prosthesis that has been deployed at a target site in an aorta where the diseased or damaged section exists;

(iii) establishing the access path to a desired fastening site on the prosthesis by manipulating the intraluminal directing device within the prosthesis to orient the distal region with respect to the desired fastening site;

(iv) introducing the intraluminal fastener applier along the access path to the desired fastening site; and

(v) anchoring the prosthesis by operating the actuated member to generate an implantation force to implant a the tissue-piercing fastener into tissue at the desired fastening site

while the means applies a resolving force to resolve within the targeted site with an aorta at least a portion of the implantation force.

39 (Canceled).

40 (Previously Presented). A method according to claim 38 wherein (iii) includes rotating the intraluminal directing device and/or deflecting the distal region.

41 (Previously Presented). A method according to claim 38 wherein the prosthesis includes at least one self-expanding scaffold, and wherein (ii) comprises releasing the prosthesis from constraint to permit the at least one scaffold of the prosthesis to self-expand at the target site.

42 (Previously Presented). A method according to claim 38 wherein the prosthesis includes at least one malleable scaffold, and wherein (ii) comprises applying a radially expansive force within the prosthesis to cause expansion of the at least one scaffold.

43 (Previously Presented). A method according to claim 38 wherein the intraluminal directing device includes a passage that defines the access path, and

wherein (iv) includes introducing the intraluminal fastener applier through the passage to the desired fastening site.

44 (Previously Presented). A method according to claim 43 wherein the passage comprises an interior lumen.

45 to 48 (Canceled).